

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method for ~~controlling~~ exchanging commands between an application running on a computer and a data processing device having a processor, which is connected to ~~[[a]]~~ the computer via an interface and appears to the computer as a data storage device with a corresponding file system to which an operating system on the computer is capable of writing files, the method comprising:

~~simulating with the data processing device a data storage medium present at the interface which the computer is capable of accessing using write commands of the computer's operating system;~~

~~generating a device-specific command by using an application program on the computer,~~
a device-specific command for execution by an execution handler running on the processor of the data processing device;

storing the command in a special file;

~~writing the~~ requesting the operating system of the computer to write a special file containing the device-specific command from the computer to the corresponding file system data processing device using a write operation by means of the write command of the operating system of the computer; and

~~reading with the connected data processing device the device specific command from the special file; and~~

after the special file is received by the data processing device, executing the device specific command ~~read from~~ contained in the special file using the execution handler running on the processor of the data processing device.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the device specific command is executed by the execution handler on the data processing device only when the special file is identified by the data processing device, ~~contains identification.~~

11. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising generating with the processor of the connected data processing device an answer to the executed device specific command.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising writing a status bit by the processor in the connected data processing device in a random access memory of the connected data processing device or in the special file that has been written to the data processing device, ~~with reference to~~ referencing which bit an answer to the executed command is generated at the next access to the file.

13. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the answer to the executed command is buffered in a volatile or non-volatile memory of the connected data processing device.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 11, further comprising:

sending-requesting with the application that a read command of the operating system
~~related to~~ reads the special file from the ~~computer to the~~ connected data processing device;

receiving the read command in the connected data processing device;

storing the answer generated in the connected data processing device in the special file, which is thereby modified; and

returning the special file from the connected data processing device to the computer ~~in the execution of the read command.~~

15. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 14, further comprising:

receiving the returned special file by the computer;

recognizing that the special file contains an answer; and

reading the answer from the special file and further processing the answer in the application program.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the answer generated by the processor of the connected data processing device is one of a device status or an error message.

17. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 9 [44], wherein the special file is identified by the data processing device when the specific file is written by the operating system to a previously selected ~~with reference to its special, flexible block address.~~

18. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the connected data processing device includes a mass storage device with a corresponding file system; and wherein the special file is written onto a mass storage ~~device~~ medium of the connected data processing device and is capable of being ~~or is read from [a] the mass storage device~~ medium of the connected data process device.

19. (Currently amended) A system for controlling a data processing device, comprising a computer with an operating system and a data processing device with a processor, which is connected to the computer via an interface and which appears to the computer as a data storage medium with a corresponding file system present at the interface, the system comprising an application program stored in the memory of the computer, the application program comprising instructions for executing on the computer for generating a device specific command, storing the command in a special file ~~on the computer and writing the~~ and requesting the operating system of the computer to write the special file containing the device-specific command to the corresponding file system that appears to the computer at connected data processing device via the interface of the computer using, the operating system thereby transmitting to the device the special file using a write-command operation of the operating system of the computer; wherein the connected data processing device is adapted to ~~is further comprised of a memory storing instructions for adapting the processor, when read by the processor, to simulate~~ at least appear to the computer as a mass data storage medium having a file system to which the operating system is capable of writing files, receive the special file, read the device specific command from the special file after receiving the special file through the interface, and execute the device specific command.

20. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 19, characterized in that the processor of the device is adapted for executing the device specific command only when the special file contains identification.

21. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 19, characterized in that an answer to the executed device specific command is generated by the processor of the connected data processing device.

22. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein

~~the computer is adapted for sending a read command of the operating system concerning the special file to the connected data processing device after receiving the read command, the device stores the answer generated in the device in the special file, whereby the special file is modified; and~~

the connected data processing device is adapted for storing in the special file the answer generated in the data processing device and returning the special file to the computer in the execution of the read command of the in response to the operating system of the computer reading the special file from the data processing device.

23. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the connected data processing device, to which the special file is transmitted ~~by means of~~ using the write operation command of the operating system, comprises no mass storage medium for use by the computer device for storing files.

24. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 19, characterized in that the interface of the computer is comprised of a universal serial bus (USB) interface or a SCSI interface.

25. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 19, characterized in that the processor for executing the read device specific command is arranged in an external device.

26. (Currently amended) A data processing device for executing a device specific command generated by an application program running on a computer, the device comprising an

interface for connecting to a computer, and a processor, ~~and memory for storing data files~~, the device being specifically adapted for

~~simulating a stored medium~~ causing the device to appear as a mass storage device having a corresponding file system to an interfacing computer, ~~and~~

receiving a special file containing a device specific command executable by the device and not to be executed by the computer from which the special file was received, the special file being created by the [an] application program running on the computer and received by ~~written to the memory of the device~~ through the interface using the a write operation command of the computer's operating system that instructs the data processing device to write the file to a previously specified storage location,

~~the processor being adapted to read the device specific command in the special file in response to receiving the special file using an execution handler running on the processor of the data processing device; and by means of the write command of the operating system of the computer through the interface with the computer, and to execute~~

executing the device specific command contained in the special file.

27. (Currently amended) A data processing device according to Claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises no mass storage ~~device~~ medium for storing files, the device merely appear to be a mass data storage device.

28. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the special file is written by the write operation ~~command~~ of the operating system of the computer to a predetermined block address.

29. (New) A method of a computer program running on a computer to cause execution of a device-specific command by an external device connected to the computer via an interface, the external device comprising a processor and memory; the method comprising:

creating, using the computer program, a file comprising a device-specific command, the device-specific command being executable by an execution handler running on the processor of the external device;

requesting, using the computer program, the operating system of the computer to write the file to the device, the operating system thereby causing the computer to send to the device the file by a write operation that requests the device to write the file to a predetermined storage location; and

receiving the file at the external device, reading the device-specific command in the file, and executing the device-specific command using the execution handler running on the processor of the external device.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising,

requesting, using the computer program, the operating system to read the file from external device; and

reading from the file that is returned from the external device a result generated from execution of the device-specific command.

31. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the connected data processing device does not include a data storage medium, the data processing device being further adapted for

simulating to the computer a mass data storage medium but not capable of storing files written to the data processing device.

32. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the device specific command is unknown to the operating system with respect to the connected data processing device.

33. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the data processing device further comprises a mass data storage medium with a corresponding file system.

34. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the device specific command is unknown to the operating system with respect to the data processing device.

35. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the device-specific command is unknown to an operating system running on the computer with respect to the data processing device.

35. (New) The data processing device of claim 26, wherein the device further comprises a data storage medium with a corresponding file system, the data processing device being further adapted for having the data storage medium appear at the interface as a mass data storage device for storing files written to the data processing device.

36. (New) The data processing device of claim 26, wherein the device does not include a data storage medium, the data processing device being further adapted for simulating to an interfacing computer a mass data storage device without storing in a file system files written to the data processing device in the data storage medium.

37. (New) The data processing device of claim 29, wherein the device-specific command is unknown to an operating system running on the computer with respect to the data processing device.

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